

APPENDIX C: PUBLIC USE AREAS

<i>Louisiana</i>	
Parish	Public Use Area
General	Historical markers and interpretive signs have been placed along some of Louisiana's highways to mark the route of El Camino Real.
Natchitoches	<p>Fort Jean Baptiste State Commemorative Area, in the city of Natchitoches, is a reconstruction of the 1732 French fort and trading post. The site, which includes barracks, a warehouse, a chapel, the commandant's house, and Indian huts, is available for guided tours. Older sections of Natchitoches are included in the Natchitoches Historic District (a national historic landmark district). The Lemee House, the Museum of Historic Natchitoches, and the Old Court House Museum are of historical interest.</p> <p>Los Adaes State Commemorative Area is a 50-acre site at the location of a Spanish fort from the early 1700s. In 1721 Spain designated Los Adaes the capital of the province of Texas. Los Adaes was the official residence of the governor, and a house was built for him within the presidio. Archeological excavations have provided significant information about the site, which includes an archeological laboratory. Guided tours are offered to visitors.</p> <p>The Kisatchie National Forest, which is in the vicinity of the Old San Antonio Road, offers a variety of opportunities for outdoor recreation.</p>
Sabine	<p>Fort Jesup, on the Old San Antonio Road, was established in 1822 and abandoned after the Mexican-American War. The fort originally contained a complex of 82 stone and log garrison buildings, which were sold at auctions between 1850 and 1885. By 1929 only the kitchen-mess hall remained. Local supporters helped to restore this building and refurnish it with period reproductions, and in 1957 the 20.5-acre Fort Jesup State Commemorative Area was established. The site includes stone pillars and archeological remains that mark the locations of other buildings. There is also a reconstructed officers' quarters (used as a visitor center), a museum, and a park administrative office.</p> <p>Fort Jesup State Park, in Many, Louisiana, became a national historic landmark in 1986. The state-owned site, just off Louisiana Highway 6, is open to the public, and guided tours are available.</p> <p>Cane River Creole National Historical Park, which contains several historic plantations, serves as the focus of interpretive and educational programs on the history of the Cane River.</p> <p>The Sabine River has been dammed to form North Toledo Bend Reservoir, a state recreation area offering a visitor center and playgrounds, as well as opportunities for fishing, water sports, camping, picnicking, wildlife observation, and canoeing. The 3,000-acre North Toledo Wildlife Management Area on the Toledo Bend Reservoir was established to create and restore waterfowl breeding and wintering habitat. The project includes a 500-acre impoundment to provide habitat for migrating waterfowl.</p>

<i>Texas</i>	
County	Public Use Area
General	<p>The Texas Department of Transportation has placed roadside historical markers containing interpretive information about El Camino Real de los Tejas in Robertson County at the intersection of state highway 6 and the Old San Antonio Road and along Texas Highway 21 in Brazos, Burleson, Houston, and Lee Counties. The Old San Antonio Road is marked in Lee County east of the intersection of U.S. 290 and Texas Highway 21, in Leon County near Normangee, and in San Antonio (Bexar County) at Loop 410 and Nacogdoches Road. [NOTE: Marker locations and historical information are available in <i>Why Stop? A Guide to Texas Historical Roadside Markers</i> (Dooley, Dooley, and TX Hist. Comm. 1985) and <i>A Guide to Hispanic Texas</i> (Simons and Hoyt 1992)].</p>
Bastrop	<p>More than 125 historic structures in the town of Bastrop are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These include restaurants, antique shops, and specialty shops along the historic main street.</p> <p>A roadside sign in Bastrop County, 1.5 miles east of Bastrop on Texas Highway 71, marks the location of El Camino Real near where the trail leading north from San Antonio crossed the Colorado River. The crossing was the site of a Spanish stockade called Puesta del Colorado.</p>
Bexar	<p>San Antonio, a major stop on El Camino Real, contains many historic sites that have been preserved for public education and appreciation. These are listed below.</p> <p>The Mission Parkway Historic/Archeological District along the San Antonio River is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>The HemisFair Park in San Antonio, operated by the Institute of Texan Cultures, features 26 ethnic and cultural groups in a variety of exhibits.</p> <p>The Alamo in downtown San Antonio is now a museum administered by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. This national historic landmark is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The surrounding plaza was originally the courtyard of Mission San Antonio de Valero.</p> <p>The Presidio de Béxar was relocated to the Military Plaza in 1722 from its original site farther north. The plaza served as a drilling ground for troops stationed at the presidio.</p> <p>San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, contains four of the five San Antonio missions: Mission Concepción, Mission San José y San Miguel de Aguayo, Mission San Juan Capistrano, and Mission San Francisco de la Espada. Each mission has an active parish church. Franciscan Friars established this chain of missions along the San Antonio River in the early 18th century. The missions are a reminder of one of Spain's most successful attempts to extend its New World dominion northward from Mexico.</p> <p>The San Antonio Missions were dependent on the planting and harvesting of crops. Once part of the irrigation system serving the San Antonio missions, Espada Aqueduct, the only remaining Spanish structure of its type in the United States, is a national historic landmark.</p> <p>Mission Concepción, first established in East Texas, was moved to the Austin area in 1730 and then to San Antonio in 1731. The church, under construction for 20 years, was finally completed in 1755. The adjacent cloister arcade has been partly reconstructed.</p> <p>Mission San José y San Miguel de Aguayo, which was established in 1720 and was relocated to its present site sometime between 1724 and 1727. The entire mission compound has been reconstructed, including the outer wall with Indian quarters, workshops, and the granary.</p>

<i>Texas</i> (continued)	
County	Public Use Area
Bexar (continued)	<p>Mission San Juan Capistrano, founded in 1731, was the successor to the East Texas mission San José de los Nazonis (1716). The church, the convent, and a granary of local limestone date from 1756. There are ruins of a large church and Indian quarters. The chapel, the priests' quarters, and other structures were repaired and stabilized in the 1960s.</p> <p>Mission San Francisco de la Espada was moved from eastern Texas in 1729 and established in San Antonio in 1731, serving the needs of the Coahuiltecan Indians until 1794. The dominant feature of this mission is a little stone chapel thought to have been originally built in the mid-1700s. Parts of this chapel, as well as other features such as the walls, the convento, and Indian quarters, were reconstructed beginning in the late 1800s and continuing well into the 20th century. The site also includes the southeast bastion, or fortified tower, the foundation of a granary, and the ruins of walls that once surrounded the mission compound.</p> <p>The Spanish Governor's Palace in San Antonio became the seat of Spanish government in 1772. The building was used as the <i>comandancia</i>, or headquarters, and was the residence of the captain of the presidio of San Antonio B́exar, as well as governors, captains of the garrison, and civil alcaldes. This large Spanish colonial townhouse, the only remaining example in Texas of an 18th century Spanish official residence, is a national historic landmark. The palace is open to visitors as a museum.</p> <p>The Springs Park contains both prehistoric and historic archeological remains. San Pedro Springs influenced the decision to locate the villa of San Fernando de B́exar and Mission San Antonio de Valero nearby. In 1729 the springs were designated as a public space.</p> <p>The Old Spanish Missions Historical Research Library at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio contains special collections relating to missions and the Spanish Colonial period.</p>
Cherokee	Caddoan Mounds State Historic Site, near Alto, contains temple and burial mounds that are remnants of a prehistoric ceremonial and political center. The site offers a visitor center, interpretive audiovisual programs, a replica of a Caddoan house, a museum, and an interpretive walking trail.
Comal	<p>The Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture in New Braunfels is housed in the historic 1858 Andreas Breustedt home. It features furniture handcrafted in Texas during the 1800s.</p> <p>The Sophienburg Museum, which contains Indian artifacts and household items of the pioneer era, is on the site where Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels built a log fortress.</p>
Goliad	Goliad State Park is a 2,208-acre park featuring the restored Mission Esṕritu Santo, the ruins of Mission Nuestra Séora del Rosario de los Cujanes, and Presidio La Bahía, a national historic landmark. The presidio was restored in 1963–67 to its 1836 appearance, including officers' quarters, barracks, a guardhouse, and bastions. There is an active chapel inside the presidio walls. Public and private sources funded the reconstruction and preservation of the mission and the presidio, which are open to the public as historical parks. The park also includes the Aranama Nature Trail, the ruins of an old quarry (thought to date to the early mission period), a brick kiln, a museum, and camping and recreational facilities. The birthplace of Gen. Ignacio Zaragoza is nearby.

<i>Texas</i> (continued)	
County	Public Use Area
Hays	<p>Aquarena Springs is owned by Southwest Texas State University, which is in the process of developing a research and interpretive center about the springs. The area includes a 100 year old gristmill, a Spanish mission, and a frontier home. Aquarena Springs Archeological District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>The village of Gruene, established by German immigrants before 1850, contains historic structures such as stores, art galleries, a winery, an ice cream parlor, and a beer hall.</p>
Houston	<p>Mission Tejas State Historic Park, covering 118 acres, commemorates Mission San Francisco de los Tejas, the first Spanish mission in East Texas. The León expedition established the mission in 1690 near site of the present Weches. The mission, abandoned in 1693 following epidemics and crop failures, was reestablished in 1716 on the Neches River as Nuestro Padre San Francisco de los Tejas. This site was an estimated 10 miles east of its original location. Abandoned again during the war between Spain and France, the mission was reestablished as Mission San Francisco de los Neches in 1721. It was moved temporarily to the Austin area in 1730, then relocated to the San Antonio area, where it became known as San Francisco de la Espada (Swanton 1979, 99; W. Foster 1995, 128–9; Simons and Hoyt 1992, 220).</p> <p>Included in Mission Tejas State Historic Park is the Rice family log home and stagecoach inn, one of many established along El Camino Real. The log house, originally built between 1828 and 1838, was located 16 miles from the park near Crockett. The inn was used by travelers along the Old San Antonio Road. Camping, picnicking, hiking, and nature study are available in the park.</p> <p>Davy Crockett National Forest, the largest national forest in Texas, is crossed in its northern corner by Texas Highway 21, which generally follows the route of El Camino Real. The forest offers a wide variety of opportunities for outdoor recreation, including canoeing, swimming, and hiking. The Four C Hiking Trail, 20 miles long, one of only two national recreation trails in Texas, runs through the forest between Ratcliff Lake and Neches Bluff Overlook. The Pine Springs Campground and springs mark the possible location of an 18th century campsite that was used in turn by explorers, priests, traders, and armies moving along El Camino Real.</p>
Maverick	<p>Eagle Pass is a major point of entry across the Rio Grande from Piedras Negras, Mexico. The town of Eagle Pass developed around Fort Duncan, which was established in 1849 and occupied by three companies of the 1st U.S. Infantry Regiment. The military road from Fort Duncan to San Antonio attracted merchants and traders and encouraged border trade. Many restored stone buildings, including Fort Duncan Historical Museum, form the center of the municipal park in Eagle Pass. Fort Duncan is on the National Register of Historic Places.</p>
Medina	<p>The Landmark Inn, a state historic structure in Castroville, served stagecoach passengers in the 1800s. Modern travelers can rent rooms at the historic inn. The complex is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p>
Nacogdoches	<p>The historic and architectural resources of Nacogdoches comprise a number of historic sites, structures, and districts that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as described below.</p> <p>The Sterne-Hoya Home was built in 1828 by Adolphus Sterne, a pioneer merchant who was active in the Fredonia Rebellion of 1826–27 and who helped to found the Republic of Texas. The house was later acquired by the Hoya family. The Adolphus Sterne house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>Millard's Crossing is a group of 19th century buildings furnished with antiques and pioneer memorabilia.</p>

<i>Texas</i> (continued)	
County	Public Use Area
Nacogdoches (continued)	<p>The Mission Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe was founded in 1716 for the Nacodoches Indians. This and other East Texas missions were abandoned in 1773.</p> <p>The Mission Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción de los Hasinai was founded in 1716, abandoned in 1719, and reestablished in 1721. A marker at the site commemorates the mission. In 1730 it was moved to the Austin area and then to San Antonio, where it was rededicated as mission Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción de Acuña. It is a national historic landmark.</p> <p>The Stone Fort Museum at the Stephen F. Austin State University campus in Nacogdoches is a 1936 replica of a stone house originally built by Antonio Gil Ybarbo in 1779 as a Spanish trading post.</p> <p>A roadside marker indicates the former location of Presidio Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de los Tejas. The presidio, which was originally established in 1717 near mission San Francisco de los Tejas, was abandoned in 1719, then reestablished near Mission Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción de los Hasinai, and abolished in 1779.</p>
Sabine	<p>The Sabine National Forest encompasses 188,220 acres, primarily in Sabine and Shelby Counties. The scenic forest drive on Texas Highway 184 runs through stands of long-leaf pine. A 28-mile hiking trail extends through the national forest from Lakeview Recreation Area on Toledo Bend Reservoir to U.S. 96 near the easternmost point of Sam Rayburn Reservoir. Signs on Texas Highway 21 mark the Sabine River crossing of El Camino Real de los Tejas and the locations of two early ferry crossings associated with El Camino Real, Michael Crow's ferry (1797) and Gaines Ferry (1812). [NOTE: Gaines, for whom the ferry is named, participated in the Gutiérrez-Magee Rebellion of 1812–1813.]</p>
Shelby	<p>Sabine National Forest, described above, is in Shelby County as well as Sabine County.</p>
Travis	<p>Barton Springs was occupied prehistorically and is thought to have been used by local missions during the 1700s. Anglo settlement in the area began in the 1830s, when William Barton patented the land. Barton Springs had become a popular recreational spot by 1871, and in the 20th century it was donated to the city of Austin as part of Zilker Park. Barton Springs Archeological and Historic District and the Zilker Park Historic District are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>The French Legation in Austin was built in 1840 by Comte Alphonse de Saligny, French chargé d'affaires to the Republic of Texas. The architecture is Creole, the building has period furnishings.</p> <p>The Texas state capitol, a classic statehouse, and its complex occupy 46 acres of landscaped grounds.</p> <p>McKinney Falls State Park includes the Onion Creek Crossing of El Camino Real and the ruins of pioneer Thomas F. McKinney's home and mill. The McKinney homestead is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p>
Webb	<p>Laredo is a major U.S. port of entry across from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. The community was founded in 1755 by Don Tomas Sánchez, an officer of the Royal Army of Spain. The Republic of the Rio Grande Museum contains artifacts of the Republic of the Rio Grande period (1839–41). The building was used as the capitol of the proposed independent nation, which was to include the southern part of Texas and the three northern states of Mexico. The museum, which is housed in a circa 1830s building in a historic section of Laredo, contains historic period rooms and furnishings. The museum sponsors walking tours through the San Agustín Laredo Historic District, which encompasses the nucleus of the original city.</p>

<i>Texas</i> (continued)	
County	Public Use Area
Wilson	The Rancho de las Cabras unit of San Antonio Missions National Historical Park is approximately 25 miles southeast of San Antonio, about 3 miles southwest of Floresville. The 100-acre site contains the ruins of the rancho's defensive compound and a small part of what was its surrounding grazing land. Each of the San Antonio missions had distant ranchos to provide essential livestock. Rancho de las Cabras raised livestock for the support of Mission Espada. Guided tours of the site are available.
<i>Mexico</i> (outside of study area)	
State	Public Use Area
Coahuila	The townsite of Guerrero, Coahuila, Mexico, and the Mission San Bernardo and its associated presidio are open to the public. Guerrero, which is thought of as “the Gateway to Texas,” is about 30 miles from Eagle Pass, Texas.